

ABSTRACT

Certain cells, including types of cancer cells such as melanoma cells, are capable of expressing junctophilin-like (JPL) RNA. Targeting using JPL polypeptides, nucleic acids encoding for JPL polypeptides and anti-JPL antibodies provides a method of killing or inhibiting that growth of melanoma cancer cells that express the JPL protein. Targeting materials and methods for the diagnosis and therapy of melanomas that express JPL are described.